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WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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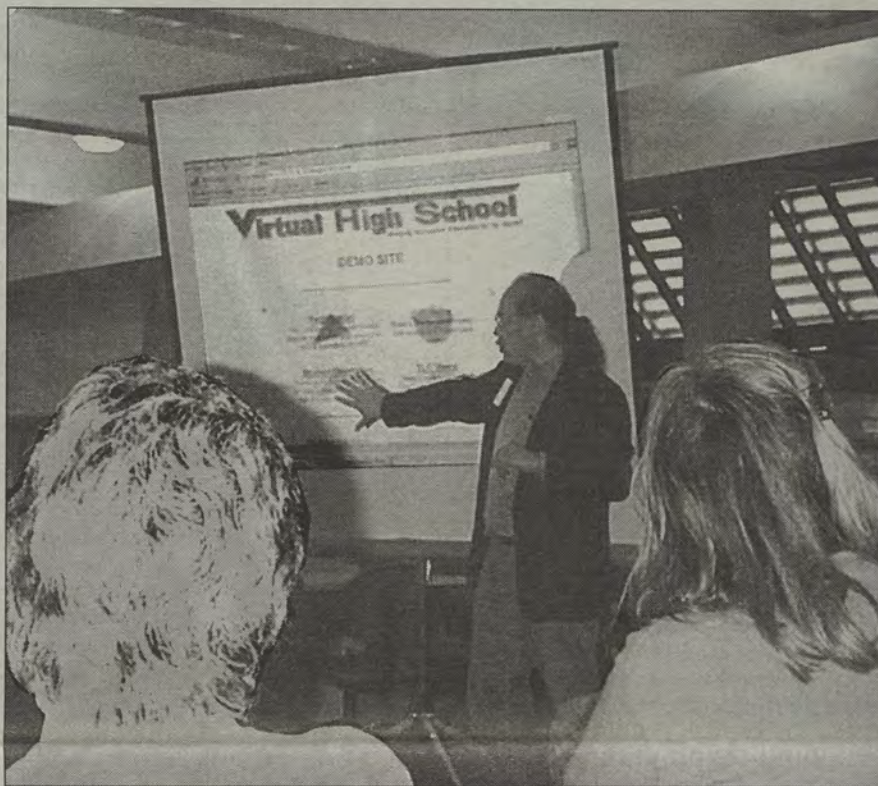
RIC chosen to lead 'technology infusion' into RI classrooms

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

Rhode Island College is one of only nine colleges or universities selected to participate in a five-year, \$9.9 million U.S. Department of Education Technology Innovation Award to "infuse" technology into teacher preparation and K-12 schools. The goal is to better prepare current and future teachers to use educational technology to improve their students' learning results.

The Virtual Professional Development School Consortium is the first national experiment to develop a "technology infusion model" by which schools and teacher education programs collaborate intensively to improve meaningful use of technology by current and future K-12 teachers, as stated in the grant abstract. The basic premise behind the Consortium is that while the ongoing technology explosion creates opportunities to improve students' learning, the schools and teacher preparation programs have been unable to keep pace with the rapid changes.

"New uses of technology that are proven to raise students' learning results are fine, but they don't mean anything unless we ensure that today's and tomorrow's teachers know how to use them to better serve their students," said Robert McLaughlin, director of the Montpelier, Vt.-based National Institute for Community Innovations, which directs the grant. "Yet the task of training current teachers and preparing future teach-



THE VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL: Raymond Rose, director of the Educational Technology Laboratory of the Concord Consortium, talks to educators in the Mann Hall Technology Center during a conference March 6-8. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ers is difficult because most teacher educators and other teacher trainers themselves understandably have limited familiarity with educational technologies since they are so new."

The grant provides funding and support to college-school partnerships, collectively referred to as the national Virtual Professional Development School Consortium (VPDS). In addition to Rhode Island, consortium partners are located in

the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont, Washington, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The nine teacher preparation programs have partnered with a total of 30 rural and urban K-12 schools, many of which serve large percentages or numbers of economically disadvantaged children, to collaborate on the

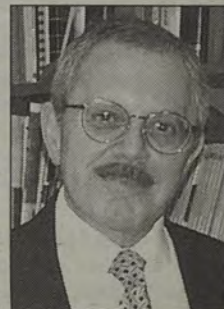
See Technology infusion, page 8

Foundation to Honor Neri at Annual Gala

Secretary of State
Langevin Honorary Chair

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

The Rhode Island College Foundation will honor Joseph A. Neri Jr., Class of 1969, president of the RIC Foundation, for his outstanding service and dedication to the College on Friday, April 9, at its 10th annual gala to be held at the Providence Biltmore Hotel. Secretary of State James R. Langevin, Class of 1990, is serving as the honorary chair of the event, which



J. NERI

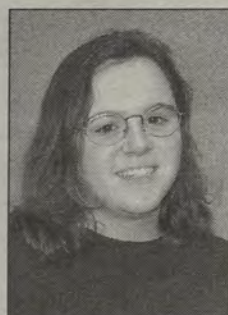
raises funds for honors scholarships.

Neri has been an active alumnus since 1980, having served as the Alumni Association's secretary from 1984 through 1986, and its president from 1986 to 1988. That year he was cited as the 1998 Alumnus of the Year by the Association. He became a Foundation trustee in 1986, serving as a member of the board before taking the helm of the Foundation as president in 1997.

"Joe has led the Foundation through a period of tremendous growth and change. Under his leadership, the Foundation has initiated a self-evaluation and a strategic planning process to set goals for the next five years. His dedication and enthusiasm have been instrumental in helping the Foundation continue its record-breaking successes over the past two years," said Marguerite Brown, director of development and executive director of the Foundation. "His experience and familiarity with the Alumni Association has fostered a closer connection between the Foundation and the Alumni Association, resulting in combined gifts for faculty research and other initiatives."

See Foundation, page 4

In
their
own
words...



Sarah E. Brown

Class of 2002

Recipient of:
RIC Alumni
Freshman Award

There are many reasons why I wish to attend Rhode Island College. Since the early 1900s my family has been attending what is today known as Rhode Island College.

See Alumni scholarship, page 4

Rhode Island College gets down to business Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce Business EXPO '99

Tuesday, March 16 - Wednesday, March 17
10 - 5 p.m.

K. Brian Dorval
Rhode Island College Class of 1986

Director of Programs, Creative Problem Solving Group-
Buffalo

"Creative Problem Solving: A Systemic
Approach to Organizational Change"

Don't let change stand in your way to success...
GET CREATIVE!

Wednesday, March 17; 3 p.m., Ballroom D

Visit us at Booth 1118

Join us at the RIC booth for Business After Hours reception

Wednesday, 5 p.m.

Stop by and register to win prizes!



The Century in Retrospect

As World War I rages in Europe, RIC's Clara Craig goes overseas to study a revolutionary method. See story, page 3.

The Way We Were...

This popular item in What's News will continue this year in order for you to be able to revisit your alma mater with a selection of photos from the past — the College's past, whether the current era (Rhode Island College) or past eras (Rhode Island College of Education or Rhode Island State Normal School). We invite your contribution of old photos, along with sufficient information about each such as who's in the photo and what they are doing, the year it was taken and place (if possible). In the meantime, we'll continue searching our files for interesting pictures of past College life.



HAIR, BEAUTIFUL HAIR seems to be a big part of the fashion statement on this spring day back in the 1970s. Long tresses, mustaches, sideburns and, of course, bellbottoms were de rigueur for students with spring fever relaxing on the Adams Library lawn. (file photo)

Focus on Faculty and Staff

Mary M. Sullivan, assistant professor of mathematics and educational studies, made a presentation entitled "So Many Discrete Paths Pass through Pascal's Triangle" as part of the Teachers Leading Teachers Program on Discrete Mathematics held at Boston College March 6. It was sponsored by the National Science Foundation.



In her talk to teachers from grades 6-12, Sullivan discussed how the diagonals of Pascal's triangle are connected to higher dimensions in geometry, and illustrated through "hands-on" problem solving and manipulatives the relationship to recursion and functions in algebra.

Anne E. S. Carty, DNSc, RN, professor of nursing was named the 1998 Academic Nurse Educator by the Rhode Island State Nurses Association at its recent annual convention in Falmouth, Mass.

William Holland, professor of school administration in the Department of Educational Studies, presented a paper Feb. 27 at the National Association of School Principals Conference in New Orleans. Holland, in collaboration with Prof. Charles Moore of St.



Cloud University, gave the results of a national study they conducted that examined the status of current professors of school administration and principals and the nature of their collaborations. Demographic and mobility data for purposes of determining future professor opportunities in school administration programs was reviewed. Particular attention was given to the principal shortage, principals' roles in administrator preparation programs, and how professor-principal linkages can be improved and expanded.



Douglas G. Furton, associate professor in the Department of Physical Sciences, and RIC student Jack Laiho, with Adolf Witt of the University of Toledo, recently submitted for publication in the Astrophysical Journal a paper entitled "The Amount of Interstellar Carbon Locked in Solid Hydrogenated Amorphous Carbon." Laiho's senior honors project constituted a major section of this paper. The remainder of the work was completed with support from NASA and the RIC Faculty Research Fund.

The paper is a follow-up to one entitled "Silicon Nanoparticles: Source of the Extended Red Emission?" published a few months earlier in the Journal. As a result of these recent works, Furton has been invited to give a colloquium at the NASA Ames Research Center in San Francisco in April.

In Memorium — Former director of grants John 'Jack' O'Neill

John C. "Jack" O'Neill, 71, of Kingsville, Texas, and formerly of South Kingstown, a former director of the Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects at Rhode Island College, died March 3 at Christus Spohn Shoreline Hospital, Corpus Christi, Texas, after an illness. He was the husband of Sandra L. Rexroat.

He had joined the RIC faculty in September of 1969 as an assistant professor of English and held several other positions during his tenure, including grants director, coordinator of program development and research, and special assistant to the vice president for college advancement and support, retiring in June 1985. He had had prior state service, serving at one time as Title I (Higher Education Act) director for the State of Rhode Island.

Born in Providence, a son of the late John C. and Eugenie M. (Faubert) O'Neill, he was a Navy veteran of World War II, serving with the Seabees in Okinawa, and later with the unit responsible for building the Navy installation at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, during the Korean War.

He was a 1954 graduate of the University of Rhode Island, and was president of his class. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. He received his master's degree and pursued doctoral studies at the University of Connecticut.

He had taught language and literature at RIC, Amherst College, the Naval War College in Newport,

Providence College, URI (Extension Division), the State University of New York at New Paltz, and Texas A&M University, Kingsville.

He was a past president of O'Neill Oil Co. in Peace Dale.

While in South Kingstown he had been active in civic affairs, serving on the school committee, planning board and chamber of commerce.

He was a member of the South County Jaycees, South Kingstown Lions Club and the Elks, and a charter member of VFW Post 1.

Besides his wife, he leaves a former wife, Jean (Carlson) O'Neill of Wakefield; five sons, John C. O'Neill III of Lacey, Wash., Steven O. O'Neill of Litchfield, Conn., Michael S. O'Neill of Narragansett, Kevin R. O'Neill of Jamestown and David B. O'Neill of East Providence; two daughters, Meredith A. O'Neill of Colchester, Vt., and Amy A. O'Neill of Kingsville; two brothers, former state Sen. William C. O'Neill of Charlestown and M. Robert O'Neill of Peace Dale; a sister, Arlene Walton of Charlottesville, Va.; 17 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

A graveside service was held in St. Francis Cemetery, Peace Dale.

G.L.



"JACK O'NEILL"
(file photo)

School mathematics in the 21st century to be discussed

"The Vision of School Mathematics in the 21st Century" will be discussed at Rhode Island College in sessions March 24 and April 7.

Sponsored by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science in conjunction with the Rhode Island Mathematics Teachers Association and the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England, these discussions will focus on adapting mathematics teaching to future needs.

The feedback from the sessions will be incorporated into a response to the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) which is drafting a document, Standards 2000: Principles and Standards for School Mathematics.

Guided by six principles that address equity, curriculum, teach-

ing, learning, assessment and technology, the NCTM draft is organized across grade levels and addresses both content and process.

Teachers from various Rhode Island schools K-12 and RIC faculty are invited to attend.

The sessions, both from 4-5:30 p.m. in the President's Dining Room in Donovan Dining Center, will address respectively the topics "The Developmental Perspective: Elementary and Middle School Grades and The Content/Process Perspective."

The discussion groups will be led by members of the Mathematics Education Committee, including math professors James E. Bierden, Arthur F. Smith, Ann E. Moskol and Mary A. Sullivan, department chair.

WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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The Century in Retrospect – The 1910s

The War Years

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

In the final year of the 20th century, What's News is providing a glimpse of the College from each decade. This is the second installment.

With the First World War raging across Europe during the second decade of the 20th Century, things were very different from what they are today for the world in general — and for Rhode Island College, then known as the Rhode Island Normal School.

As evidenced by the 49th Annual Report to the General Assembly, the Trustees of the College were grappling with issues of enrollment declines, teaching standards, facilities improvement needs, and severely limited state budget appropriations for the College.

Many potential college students were overseas serving their country and many of those who were still on the home-front had to delay their studies in order to work to support their families and to keep national production up. A significant drop in enrollment during the early years was exacerbating what was already being termed as a "crisis" in public education due to a shortage of teachers.

Fewer new students obviously meant fewer graduates. In addition, wartime jobs had opened doors for more lucrative positions thereby depleting the pool teaching candidates.

The College itself was not immune to the shortage. "The pressure of war time has induced several cities and towns in Rhode Island to advance teachers salaries to such an extent that some are now paying salaries higher than those paid in the Normal School ...," the report states.

the Rhode Island Normal School to the Rhode Island College of Education.

Amidst all of this turmoil, the report at the close of the decade barely mentions what may have been one of the most significant developments in education at the College up to that time — the introduction of the Americanized Montessori method of teaching. The theory and methods course taught by "Miss Craig" was merely listed as one of about 20 classes offered in the

She spent about four months studying directly under Dr. Maria Montessori, with whom she developed a lifelong friendship. Montessori visited the College and was honored at a reception.

As a result of her studies, an experiment to introduce the Montessori method was initiated in the Normal School's Observation Department. The experiment, which Craig details in a 1919 publication called "The Beginnings of Reading and Writing in the Rhode Island Normal School," was so successful that it was expanded.

Craig, who eventually became Dean of the College, was one of the first to introduce the Montessori System of education in the country when she reorganized the Henry Barnard School, according to information published in her obituary in the Evening Bulletin on Jan. 25, 1943. She lectured extensively throughout the country and contributed to national publications on education. The "Craig" in Craig Lee commends her contributions to the College. The building was dedicated in 1958 to honor Craig and

Mary M. Lee who succeeded Craig as director of training.

In 1919, when the "experiment" was still quite new, Craig states the purpose simply in her annual report



MONTESSORI VISITS: In 1913, Dr. Maria Montessori visited her protegee Clara Craig, at the College where an experiment using the Americanized Montessori method of teaching was ongoing.

In addition to seeking salary increases, the Trustees reiterated a proposal for a new building to relieve overcrowding in the existing structure, which had been built 22 years before during which time enrollment had doubled, the report states. They also suggested changing the name of

summer session. The Trustees report provides no indication of anything out of the ordinary.

A closer look at reports from the Rhode Island Normal School for that

Lectures address standards in education

The issue of Performance Standards will be addressed in a three-part distinguished lecture series this spring. Rhode Island College and the Rhode Island Center for School Leadership are co-sponsoring the series on the issue of National Standards which school leaders (including teachers) are realizing more and more as they try to incorporate these within the local school context.

Nationally renowned scholar and author on education leadership Thomas Sergiovanni will present the first in the series on Thursday, March 11 at 4 p.m. in Gaige Auditorium. In his lecture, entitled "Layered Standards and Shared Accountability," Sergiovanni will address the new National Performance Standards "craze" and the need for schools to be boned by common ideas, what the calls "the frame and glue standards" within the mosaic of the school and community.

These unique standards need more localized assessments to address the unique standards (requirements) of leadership at school sites. Sergiovanni will speed

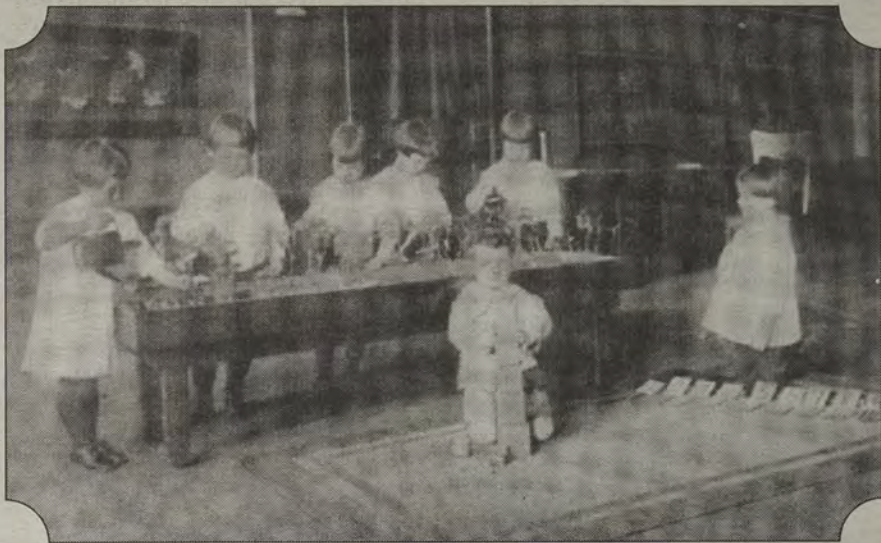
to the need for contextualized standards. His lecture will be thought provoking in a time when standards seem to be so universally accepted.

The lecture will include a discussion as well as a question and answer period. A reception will follow.

The second lecture, scheduled for April 28 at 4 p.m., will be presented by Deborah Meier, a renowned educational leader and former principal who has founded innovative public schools in mostly poor, mostly minority East Harlem, New York. These schools include a high school that graduated 90% of its students. She will present her outspoken, unabashed views about what makes schools work. She has serious concerns about rigidity that can come from standards.

The speaker and the date for the third lecture, which is currently slated for late May, are being finalized now.

The cost is \$50 for one lecture or \$135 for all three lectures. If you will to bring your classes, please call about student rates. For more information, call Nancy Sullivan at 421-0650. CEUs will be available.



HANDS-ON LEARNING: Children discover the wonder of agriculture in a 1910 Americanized Montessori method classroom.

same year reveals a different story — one of daring, innovation and dedication. In 1913, when most Americans overseas were probably yearning to come home and the states' were reeling from sending so many citizens overseas, the state of Rhode Island sent Clara Craig to Italy to gain information and bring it home.

She wasn't sent as a top secret agent to spy on an ally. She was sent to observe the then-controversial Montessori System of Child Culture.

to the Principal (President) John Alger, "It is our effort to make this school a real children's school, whose environment will stimulate worthy child tendencies and project right child interests."

Maybe things weren't so different in the first decade of the century after all.

Research materials and photographs furnished from the Rhode Island College archives with the assistance of Marlene Lopes, special collections librarian.

Foundation Gala raises funds for honors scholarships

Continued from page 1

Neri will also be recognized at the Gala for his service to the Johnston School system from which he is retiring this spring. He has worked for the school system for 30 years, 21 as an English teacher at the Johnston High School and 9 years in administration at the high school. He is retiring from the position of Assistant Principal for Faculty, Curriculum, and Instruction at the high school. Many of his colleagues in Johnston are planning to attend the Foundation Gala to honor his total commitment to education.

"We are pleased to be able to honor Joe with a public thank you at this event and to share in his recognition for 30 years of service to education in Rhode Island. It is appropriate that the spotlight shine on both his professional and volunteer contributions to education on the night that the Foundation sets aside to honor individuals while we raise scholarship funds for star students," Brown said.

The proceeds of the annual Gala help support honors scholarships to assist the College in attracting and retaining Rhode Island's best and brightest to attend school in their home state. The Gala and other Foundation events, such as the golf tournament slated for August 10, support the Honors Program scholarships. Last year over \$80,000 was awarded to deserving students. "Since over 92 percent of our students are residents of Rhode Island," Brown noted, "these scholarships are an investment in the future of our state. About 25,000 Rhode Island College alumni live and work in our state currently."

The Planning Committee members for the 1999 Gala are: Co-chairs Corinne Calise Russo, RIC masters in 1985, of North Providence, and



MAKING PLANS: The Rhode Island College Foundation's gala committee met Feb. 11 in Roberts Hall to plan its 10th Annual Gala, to be held April 9 at the Biltmore in Providence. This year's honoree is Joseph Neri, Class of 1969 and president of the Foundation. From left are (seated) Mary Juskalian; Corinne Calise-Russo, committee chair, Class of 1985; Suzanne Augenstein, Class of 1997; and Emily Smith. Standing: Mary Davey, Class of 1941; Jeanne Rose, Class of 1962; Lena Cosentino, Class of 1949; Joseph Neri, Foundation president, Class of 1969; and Elena Leonelli, Class of 1942. Missing from photo are Joseph Abbate, Class of 1974; Rep. Joanne Giannini; Theresa Howe, co-chair; Louis Marciano, Class of 1960; Rep. Frank Montanaro; Isabel Picozzi; and Kim Casci, representative from Secretary of State James Langevin's office. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Theresa Howe, of Providence; Joseph Abbate, Class of 1974, of North Providence; Lena Cosentino, Class of 1949, of North Providence; Mary Juskalian of Providence; Elena Leonelli, Class of 1942, of Providence; Louis Marciano, Class of 1960, of Cranston; Frank Montanaro

of Cranston; Isabel Picozzi of North Providence; and Emily Smith of North Providence.

The gala will include a live and silent auction and entertainment by Ray Edwards Orchestra. Tickets are \$70 per person. The event, which is black tie optional, begins with a

reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner, entertainment and dancing at 7:30 p.m. To obtain tickets or to donate an item for the auction, contact Suzanne Augenstein at 401-456-8118 or Lynn Vinacco at 401-456-8087 in the Rhode Island College Development Office.

RIC gets grants to train math teachers

Rhode Island College has been awarded additional funding of \$20,000 from the National Science Foundation as a sub-grant through the Institute of Advanced Studies to continue support of a project called Park City/IAS Mathematics Institute.

The award, with this additional funding, totals \$40,000 for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 2000.

The project, under the direction of

Ann E. Moskol, professor of mathematics, provides training to seven high school mathematics teachers in technology, geometry and the use of manipulatives in the classroom.

A second grant will provide direct funding for similar training of seven additional high school teachers this summer in the Park City Mathematics Institute Teaching Program, also under the direction of Moskol.

Alumni scholarship

Continued from page 1

My great grand aunt, Mary G. McCarthy, graduated around 1910 from what was then Rhode Island State Normal School. She went on to teach special education at Nathan Bishop School until retiring in 1966.

Another great grand aunt, Carla McCarthy Rafferty, had graduated from the Normal School at the turn of the century. She then became an administrator in the Providence school district.

In later years my grandmother, C. Leona Brown, graduated from RIC with a bachelor of science degree in vocational education.

Although I am not yet certain of what my major will be, I am sure that it will involve education. I wish to continue the legacy of successful family graduates.

From the experiences of members of my family and from speaking to teachers at my school, I have come to believe that there is no better college for someone interested in education than RIC.

This, however, is not my sole reason for choosing RIC.

Two summers ago, I toured the RIC campus and was very impressed with the kind and friendly attitude expressed to me by everyone that I encountered. Everyone made me feel as if I belonged at RIC.

I realized then that this was a place that I could easily call home for the four years I would be attending college.

RIC is about a half hour away from my home, so I will be far enough away that I will be able to enjoy campus life but close enough to return home should I feel the need.

Finally, small class size is important to me.

The average class size at RIC is much the same as the size of most of my classes in high school. With all the changes that will occur when I graduate from high school, it is reassuring that some things will remain the same.

Smolski to give first Laudati Endowed Memorial Lecture

Rhode Island College Prof. Emeritus Chester E. Smolski will deliver the first annual Caroline A. Laudati Endowed Memorial Lecture

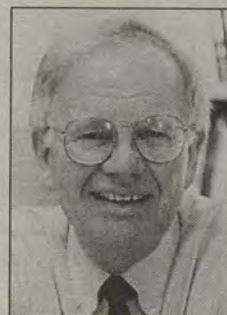
Tuesday, April 6, at 4 p.m. in the RIC Faculty Center south dining room.

Title of the lecture is "You, Your Students and Population: A Geographer Looks at Census 2000." A reception follows.

Smolski retired in the spring of 1995 as the senior faculty member at RIC with 42 years of service during which time he was credited with having a profound effect on students, teachers and the community at large.

A professor of geography and director of Urban Studies for 20 years, he was and continues to be a prolific contributor of articles to the local news media on urban affairs.

The endowed lecture was estab-



lished in 1998 within the RIC Foundation by the family and friends of Caroline A. Laudati to support an annual lecture under the aegis of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

Laudati was a teacher and principal in the Providence school system for 46 years. She was principal of Veazie Street, Berkshire Street and Valley View schools in Providence before retiring in 1970.

She had received her teaching certificate from the Rhode Island Normal School (now RIC) in 1924, and her bachelors in education in 1960 and masters in education in 1964, both from RIC.

Establishment of the fund comes as a tribute to her far-reaching impact on education in Rhode Island and her commitment to thousands of students over four decades.

The areas to be covered by the annual lecture reflect Laudati's areas of interest and should rotate as topics. They are education, geography/environment and music.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Admissions Spring Party Fiesta

The Admissions Spring Party for students who have been accepted for the 1999-2000 academic year will be held on Sunday, April 11 from 2 to 4 p.m. on the Rhode Island College campus. This year's theme is Fiesta.

Students and their families will have the opportunity to talk with faculty in their chosen major or area of interest and RIC staff and current students. For more information, contact the admissions office at 456-8234.

International student finds educational system and the U.S. itself to her liking

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Toyin Ogundipe, an international student at Rhode Island College, speaks the king's English which you might not expect from a foreign student who is not from England.

But this native of Nigeria on the west coast of Africa speaks the English language beautifully. Her enunciation is precise; her diction correct.

She puts native Rhode Islanders to shame in that regard.

It is understandable when one considers that Nigeria was once a British colony and today its 108 million people remain an English-speaking country.

Of course, there are native dialects from the three major tribes — Yoruba, Ibo and Hausa — and any number of sub-dialects.

The commonality of the English language is not the only similarity Toyin and Nigerians in general share with many people in the United States.

She is Christian, one of three major religious sects in Nigeria, the other two being Muslim and "traditional beliefs" such as the god of thunder, the god of rain and the god of harvest, demonstrating that Nigeria is, perhaps, even more diverse than the U.S.

"There has been a large movement toward Christianity in the past few years because of the trouble that's been going on. People are turning to God for help," says Toyin.

"What impressed me most was the educational system and the professors' concern for how well the students are doing." — Toyin Ogundipe

The "trouble" she refers to is the tumultuous period of the past 15 years when the country suffered under brutal dictatorships, making it an "international pariah," according to the New York Times.

As recently as March 1, the Times reported that Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo, a former military ruler who campaigned as being the only man capable of holding together "this vast and fractious country" seemed to have won the first presidential election in 16 years, suggesting that democracy was emerging.

Other similarities

Other similarities between the two countries include the educational

systems.

As in the United States, students who graduate from high or secondary school go on to college. But the similarities end there.

Education in Nigeria is "mostly free...you just pay for your accommodations" but in Nigeria "once you enter college you're on your own."

"It's up to you (as a student)," points out Toyin, who attended college studying industrial chemistry

At home in Lagos

At home in Lagos, Toyin used to do many of the same things young college-age people do in the U.S.

"I used to roller skate, hang out with friends, watch movies — basically the same as here, just a different crowd of friends," she says.

In Nigeria "the government kept closing down the universities" but unlike many Nigerians who go to study in London, she decided to come to the United States.

"I had heard good and bad about the United States," she says, adding, "I was scared about going to New York where I heard everybody had a gun."

She says being the "baby in the family," her mother didn't want her to leave for the United States. "She didn't want to let go."

When she came to the U.S. about two years ago at age 21, she moved in with an uncle in Providence and chose to attend RIC mainly because of its proximity to her uncle's house.

"When I first got here in September, I stayed home for the first three months and didn't go out," she admits. The reason: too cold!

You see, Nigeria is tropical "all year 'round" and getting used to Rhode Island weather took some doing.

She had to buy some warmer clothing for a

start but even that didn't prevent her from developing pneumonia her first year in Rhode Island.

Asked if she had ever seen snow before, she replied "only on TV." She says about snow: "It looks beautiful when I'm indoors" and laughs.

She began her studies at RIC in January of that year — taking a bus to and from RIC — studying computer science and information systems.

Beat-up old car

It wasn't long before she acquired "a little beat-up old car" which she uses to get back and forth and, hence, avoid waiting in the cold for busses.

She was impressed with RIC right from the start.

"What impressed me most was the educational system and the professors' concern for how well the students are doing," she says.

Now considered a junior, Toyin enjoys excellent grades and serves as president of VISA, the Visiting International Student Association. Being a foreign student, she cannot hold a job off-campus, so she works in the RIC Computer Center which serves two purposes: it provides income and supplements her studies of computer science and information systems.

Toyin would "love to stay" in the United States after graduation and pursue a career.

"I don't want to spend six years in college and then stay at home!"



TOYIN OGUNDIPE in traditional Nigerian dress. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

for two years in Lagos, a metropolitan city. "The professors go in and lecture and then are gone. All studying and research is entirely up to you."

Whereas, in the United States the faculty is "definitely more accessible."

"In the United States (at RIC), there's incentive to learn and more practical knowledge is available, not

just book knowledge," she finds.

Toyin, who says she "loves the United States," wasn't aware of any racism when she first came to this country, and, in Nigeria, "had no problems" with racism.

"If someone is mean to me, I think they're just having a bad day," she says. She refuses to get entangled in that web.

A daughter of Yinka Ogundipe, currently a pediatrician in Saudi Arabia, and Beatrice Quaynor, a University of Michigan educated chemical engineer, Toyin's mother and a sister are still at home in Lagos. Another sister is in London and a brother is in Washington, D.C.



What's News

Dialogue on Diversity to explore the cost of racism

The fourth annual Spring event sponsored by the Rhode Island College Dialogue on Diversity Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, in Gaije Hall. The featured speaker is John Brace, professor of Sociology and African American Studies at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He will address "The Cost of Racism to White America" from 12.30 to 2 p.m. Related workshops will follow.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Dialogue on Diversity Committee co-chairs Carol Shelton, professor of nursing, at 456-9641; Joe Costa, director of student support services, at 456-8237; or Amrit Singh, professor of English at 456-8660.

Information Systems Career Night is March 30

An Information Systems Career Night will be held Tuesday, March 30, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Rhode Island College Center for Management & Technology in Whipple Hall 102.

Sponsored by RIC and Aurora Technologies, it is a chance for students and prospective employers to get together and exchange information. Students are asked to bring resumes in preparation for meeting with representatives from the various firms attending to discuss jobs and/or internships.

RIC alumni also are welcome.

Students have been invited from Bryant, New England Tech, the University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University, Dean College, the Community College of Rhode Island, Ocean State Computer Institute and Providence College in addition to RIC.

About 50 larger companies and technology firms have been invited, reports Lori A. Martin, the career planning and placement officer for the Center for Management & Technology.

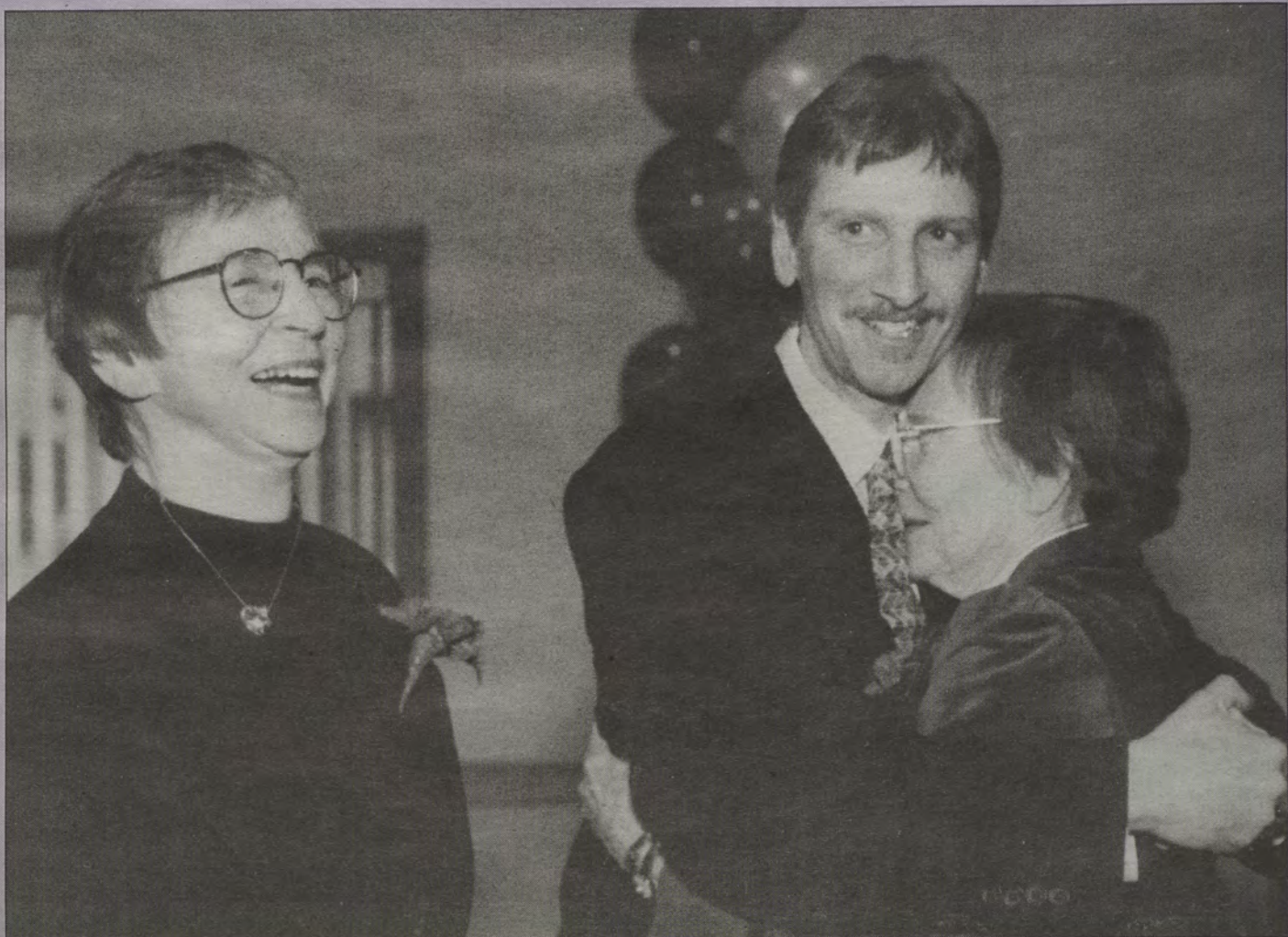
Any businesses which haven't been contacted and that wish to attend should call her at 456-9637 for a registration form. There is a \$25 fee for businesses to participate.

Author Ann Hood to speak April 20

Local author Ann Hood, whose writing was characterized by the *New York Times* as "brilliant... spare and eloquent," will speak about her latest book and her experiences as an author at a luncheon-talk sponsored by The Friends of Adams Library Tuesday, April 20, starting at noon in the Faculty Center.

Watch for more information about this event in the next issue of *What's News*.

40th Anniversary of RIC Dance Company



HUGS AND KISSES: Honoree Fannie Helen Melcer (right) hugs current Director of Dance Dante Del Giudice, while honoree Billie Ann Burrill looks on.

The 40th anniversary of the RIC Dance Company was celebrated March 5-7 with fond memories of the past, an exciting performance by current students, and buoyant optimism for the future of modern dance in general and the RIC Dance Company in particular.

It all began with lots of hugs and kisses at a reception in the Faculty Center March 5, at which alumni dancers mingled with their former teachers, and honorees and their families and friends recalled the major milestones in the history of dance at Rhode Island College.

The honorees were professors emerita Billie Ann Burrill and Fannie Helen Melcer; former dance

instructor Patricia Cohen; distinguished alumna Jennifer Cooke, Class of 1974, MAT 1978; and the late Christine Hennessey and Doris Holloway Abels, both of whom served as adjunct professors of dance.

After-dinner speaker Maryanne Gardiner Needham, Class of 1959, recalled the, often humorous, beginnings of dance at the College, including a "Dance of the Animals" on the lawn of the State House. Then special guest speaker Clay Taliaferro, professor of dance at Duke University who has choreographed dances at RIC since the 1970s, gave a passionate and inspirational address on the future of modern dance.

We offer a brief glimpse of the celebration.

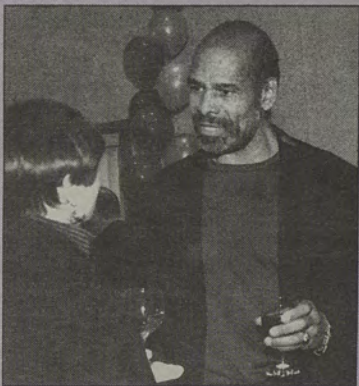


"FORBIDDEN LOVE," choreographed by Cornelius Carter, is performed by Meaghan McDonough (foreground) and Stacey Grasso.



"BOTTOMS UPS," a tap dance choreographed by Mary Kirkwood, kicks off the Spring concert

Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley



CHOREOGRAPHER and professor of dance at Duke University Clay Taliaferro was the special guest speaker following dinner in the Faculty Center.



THREE HONOREES: From left, Joan Russell, representing her sister, the late Doris Holloway Abels; Patricia Grant Cohen; and Jennifer Cooke during the reception.



ALUMNI REUNION: Dancers (l to r) Donna McGuire-Connell, Class of 1994; Clare Vadeboncoeur, Class of 1983; Rebecca Norris, Class of 1995; and Laura Newell-Reynolds, Class of 1993 trade reminiscences. Vadeboncoeur choreographed one of the dances in the Spring Concert.



CHILDREN OF HONOREE the late Christine Hennessey, Elizabeth and Christopher Corey, talk with President John Nazarian.

Romanian violinist featured with RIC Symphony in Chester Performance Award Concert

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Romanian violinist Irina Muresana, winner of the Harvard Musical Association Arthur W. Foote Prize, and, consequently, the 1999 Rhode Island College Foundation Chester Fund grant for performance at RIC, will be featured in the RIC Symphony Orchestra concert Monday, March 22, at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Muresana, whom the *Boston Globe* described as "not just a virtuoso, but an artist," will play Ludwig van Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D Major, Opus 61.

Other selections to be performed by the RIC Symphony, under the baton of Edward Markward, include Johannes Brahms' Academic Festival Overture, Opus 80; Gabriel Faure's Pavanne, Opus 50, and Igor Stravinsky's The Firebird (Suite, 1919 version) of which Markward says, "...from introduction to finale we are treated to some of art's most poignant and skillful tonal pictures."

The concert is admission free due to the donation from Providence music devotees Samuel and Esther Chester, who have underwritten the performers' fees.



IRINA MURESANA

Muresanu has won attention as an outstanding young violinist through numerous appearances as soloist, recitalist and chamber musician.

Strad Magazine called her debut recital at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall in 1997 "a first-rate concert."

She has appeared as soloist with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Metropolitan Orchestra in Montreal, the Boston Philharmonic, the Romanian National Radio

Orchestra and the Transvaal Philharmonic in Pretoria, South Africa.

Her appearances at major concert halls throughout the world include those at Weill and Merkin halls in New York, Jordan Hall in Boston, Theatre Maissoneuve in Montreal and the Concert Hall of Hong Kong's Academy for the Performing Arts.

Muresanu's list of competition awards include the 1996 Pro Musica International; first prize at the 1996

Camerata Violin Competition and second prize at the 1997 Washington International Competition. She is a laureate of the UNISA International String Competition in South Africa and the Montreal International Violin Competition, and is winner, in addition to the Foote Prize, of the Presser Music Award and the International Kate Neal Kinley Memorial Fellowship.

She has recorded for the Romanian National Radio Chamber Orchestra and has performed live at Boston's WGBH classical music radio station.

A graduate of the Music Academy in Bucharest and the University of Illinois, she currently is a candidate for the Artist Diploma at the New England Conservatory of Music.

The Chesters, in an effort to aid young and talented concert artists from New England, endowed the RIC Foundation in 1996 with \$25,000 to establish a performance award in their names.

Muresanu, as winner of the annual Foote Prize as adjudicated by the Harvard Musical Association, is the fourth recipient.

Additional support for the performance is provided by the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission, the Durand Agency, Walco Electric and several individual donors.

Novelist-screenwriter Price featured at Spring Celebration of the Arts

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Novelist-screenwriter Richard Price will give a reading from his works Tuesday, April 13, at 8 p.m. in the Student Union ballroom as part of the Rhode Island College Spring Celebration of the Arts.

A RIC Film Society screening of his film, *Sea of Love*, starring Al Pacino and Ellen Barkin, will be given April 14 at 8 p.m. in Horace Mann Hall 193, followed by a question-and-answer session with Price. There is no charge for either event, both of which are open to the public.

These events highlight the fine and performing arts events scheduled in April and May at the College. (See schedule below.)

Price, born in 1949, grew up in Brooklyn, graduated from Cornell and Columbia universities and published his first novel, *The Wanderers*, in 1974. The *New York Times* Book Review described it as "a superbly written book."

He followed that novel with *Bloodbrothers* in 1976 and *Ladies' Man* in 1978, and *The Breaks* in 1982.

He is perhaps best known for his novel *Clockers*, published in 1992, for which he was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award. *Clockers*, which has been described by Tom Wolfe as "a great piece of work" was adapted as a film by Spike Lee.

Price's latest novel, *Freedomland*, which is under option as a film, has been nominated for the first Imus Award for fiction.

The highly acclaimed *Sea of Love* was Price's first feature film. His other films include *The Color of*

Money for which he received an Academy Award nomination, *Night and the City*, *Kiss of Death* and *Ransom*.

His work has appeared in numerous magazines, including *Esquire*, *Rolling Stone* and the *New York Times*. He has taught at Yale, New York and Columbia universities.

Price resides in Manhattan with his wife and two daughters.

His appearance is being sponsored by the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission, *Shoreline* and the RIC Film Society.

Arts Events

April 1-30 — Art Exhibit: Scorched Earth—Changing Concepts in Ceramics, Bannister Gallery.

April 14 — Chamber Music Series: Blackstone Chamber Players, Roberts Hall 138 (recital hall), 1 p.m.

April 21 — Chamber Music Series: Rose Weaver, jazz vocalist, Roberts Hall 138 (recital hall), 1 p.m.

April 22-25 — RIC Theatre: Cabaret, Roberts Hall auditorium; evenings at 8, Sunday matinee at 2.

April 27 — Performing Arts Series: Ken Ruta as Oscar Wilde in "Divisions and Delights," Roberts Hall auditorium, 8 p.m.

April 28 — Chamber Music Series: Diana McVey, soprano, Roberts Hall 138 (recital hall), 1 p.m.

April 30 — Music: RIC Wind Ensemble, Roberts Hall auditorium, 8:15 p.m.

May 3 — Music: RIC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Roberts Hall auditorium, 8:15 p.m.

Watch upcoming issues of *What's New* for further details on these events.

RIC Chorus to revive Collage Concert March 25

The 43-voice Rhode Island College Chorus, under the direction of William Jones and accompanied by large and small ensembles, will revive the Collage Concert, thus providing a fast-paced, variety-filled performance Thursday, March 25, at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Offering "a showcase of performance talent," from the music area of the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, the chorus with pianist Natalya Goncharova, brass, flute, clarinet, percussion, saxophone and guitar ensembles, the Chamber Winds and Chamber Orchestra will perform 20 selections ranging from the works of Richard Strauss, Vivaldi, Offenbach and Mozart to Gilbert & Sullivan.

A rousing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" by the chorus with accompanying instrumental ensemble which includes four faculty, two alumni and three stu-

dents will conclude the concert.

"I have asked all other faculty to sing in the chorus for this number as well as all students in the concert but not usually in the chorus," says Jones.

And, the audience will be invited to sing with the chorus on the final refrain.

The Collage Concert concept was first introduced to RIC by the late Francis Marciniak, who directed the RIC Wind Ensemble. Hence, the concert was based on the wind ensemble performances. It continued for a time after his death, led by Steven Martorella of the adjunct music faculty and then was discontinued.

When Jones assumed direction of the RIC Chorus for 1998-99, he revived the practice, only now with the emphasis on the chorus.

General admission tickets to the concert are \$7. RIC students admitted free. For more information, call Jones at 456-8244.

Flutist Doriot Dwyer to perform March 24

Principal flutist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Doriot Anthony Dwyer, will perform Mozart's Flute Concerto in D Major and other works in the Wednesday, March 24, Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital hall).

Also on the program will be eight Haiku (sic) by James Yannatos, written especially for her, and two movements from John LaMontaine's A Sonata, Opus No. 44.

Accompanying her will be Timothy Bozarth on piano. The recital is free and open to the public.

Dwyer was the first female full-time member of the Boston Symphony, a position she has held

for 38 years. She has many solo, chamber and orchestral recordings to her credit.

She is the recipient of honorary doctorates from several universities, including Harvard, and was the winner of a Sanford Fellowship at Yale University, among others.

She was given the "Woman of Achievement" award from the Woman's Hall of Fame which she accepted on behalf of her relative, Susan B. Anthony.

"She plays marvelously, with that wonderful and inimitable sound, at once brilliant and warm, focused yet glowing," wrote Richard Dyer of the *Boston Globe* when she performed with the Boston Pops in 1996.

RIC offers summer session in London

Rhode Island College is offering again its summer study program for college credit in London, England, for a three-week period in conjunction with South Bank University.

This is preceded by a six-week seminar at RIC in Summer Session I (May 24-July 2) wherein students will study the British political history, the government structure and institutions, cultural context, daily life and preparation for the trip, including local customs, likely expenses, transportation, living arrangements, navigating your way around London, and how to successfully combine studies with a relaxing cultural experience.

Once in London participants will explore British politics, government and society, British and European cultural studies, urban geography and city planning, visual and performing arts, and take walking tours of the city and seminars and guided field trips.

You do not have to be a RIC student to participate.

Costs are at the regular summer-session tuition rates which is possible because RIC faculty will accompany participants on the trip and do the teaching as has been done in the past two years. Previously,

South Bank University faculty taught the course.

Overall cost of the program, including accommodations and flight from Boston direct to London is about \$2,000 which is about half of what other European summer sessions cost, according to Mark Motte, director of the RIC Study Abroad program.

Richard R. Weiner, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, will serve as course director. Motte will be course lecturer. Weiner had taught at South Bank University in the 1980s and Motte is from England. Laurence Marlow, of South Bank University, will serve as course liaison.

Once settled in London, the first week theme will be British Political Institutions and Parties; the second week, the Political Geography of City Building; the third week, London and the World. An optional visit to Paris via Eurostar train service through the "Chunnel" will be available on the third weekend in London.

Those interested should contact Dean Weiner at 456-8106 or 8107 or Professor Motte at 456-8378 or 8005 by the end of March in order to get discounted flight rates.



THE LONDON COURSE class of 1998 (less three students who didn't get in the photo) as they pose on the stairs at South Bank University.

Psychiatrist-author William Glasser to lecture at RIC April 9

Psychiatrist-author William Glasser, M.D., best known for his classic book, *Reality Therapy*, a method of psychotherapy that applies to all human problems, will lecture at Rhode Island College's Gage Hall auditorium Friday, April 9, at 9:30 a.m.

His lecture, which follows a 9 a.m. registration, is entitled "Choice Theory/Internal Control Psychology." It is open to all New England faculty and graduate students.

The renowned Glasser reduces his speaking fees for colleges and other educational forums. Instead, he sets the price of admission as proof of purchase of his book, *Choice Theory: A New Psychology of Personal Freedom*, which will be sold at Gage auditorium for \$13.95. Hard-cover

versions also are available in commercial bookstores for \$24.

Early in his career Glasser became interested in prevention. To further that interest in mental health, he began working in public schools.

His thesis was that school failure was very destructive to the mental health of a failing child.

As documented in his 1969 book, *Schools Without Failure*, and in the 1990 book, *The Quality School*, he does not believe that schools should fail any child.



His educational agenda through The Quality School Consortium is to persuade schools to discard wasteful and ineffective discipline programs and to institute quality management principles that will transform institutional norms from coercion to quality.

Midway in his career, he immersed himself in a relatively new pattern that explains how human beings function called "control theory."

He published a book by that name in the early 1980s. In subsequent books, *Choice Theory in the Classroom*, *The Quality School Teacher*, *The Choice Theory Manager* and *Staying Together*, he emphasizes the importance of gaining a sound knowledge of what he now calls "choice theory," so people can

make meaningful changes not only in the schools, but in their personal relationships and in all other institutions that impact their lives.

Glasser is president and founder of The William Glasser Institute, a not-for-profit foundation that provides training in his concepts all over the world.

The lecture is being sponsored by the RIC Department of Counseling & Educational Psychology, the Rhode Island Mental Health Counselors Association (RIMHCA) and the Rhode Island Counseling Association (RICA).

Continuing education credit for this event is available to licensed clinical mental health counselors.

For more information, call 456-8023.

Social Work's annual conference set for May 18

Rhode Island College School of Social Work's 19th annual conference on social action and social research entitled "Evaluating Practice and Social Policies" will be held Tuesday, May 18, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Student Union ballroom.

Billed as a gift to the community, it is free and open to the public but seating is limited and early registration is encouraged. Call 456-8042.

The keynote address will be delivered by Jane Gilgun, a Ph.D. professor of social work at the University of Minnesota. Her topic will be "How Jesse 'The Body' Ventura was Elected Governor—or—Small Efforts of Many People Can Bring Surprising Results."

Workshops will include evaluations of clinical social work practice and programs, studies of client satisfaction, HIV infection, alcoholism, lesbian and gay issues, welfare reform and social action efforts.

Continuing Education credits will be available. The event is funded by the RIC Lectures Committee.



PART OF THE TEAM of KPMG consultants at work on the Y2K problem for the College are (l to r) James Dorian, Adam Weisman, Steve Rosenberg, Dick Davis, Conrad Moses, James Downes, Sara Bogolin, Ejike Eze, Brian Annesi, Jaap Van Reijendam and Rob "Cookie" Cook. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

RIC CALENDAR

MARCH 15 - 29

Tuesdays

Noon to 1 p.m.—*Bible Study* in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. Conducted by Larry Nichols.

Wednesdays

12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—Catholic Student Association meets in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300.

Saturday, March 13 through Sunday, March 21
Spring Break.

18-21 Thurs. - Sun.

39th Annual Meeting of Northeastern Anthropological Association will be held at RIC. Registration fee is \$35 for public/students \$10. For further information, call the Anthropology/Geography Department at 456-8005.

19 Friday

7:30 p.m.—*Music:* High School Solo Competition—American Band in Roberts Auditorium. \$5.

22 Monday

8:15 p.m.—*Music:* RIC Symphony Orchestra in Roberts Auditorium. General admission \$7, RIC students free, admission discounts for senior citizens, faculty/staff, and non-RIC students.

24 Wednesday

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*Celebration.* Poetry readings and acknowledgements of international women in DDC Women's Center lower level.

1 p.m.—*Music:* Doriot Anthony Dwyer, flute. Chamber Music Series in Roberts Hall. Free.

4 to 8 p.m.—*Movie: Apocalypse Now* in Gaige 207. Sponsored by the History Department. 456-8802. Free.

25 Thursday

Noon to 1:30 p.m.—*Workshop:* "Controlling Anger Before It Controls You". CL 120. Sponsored by the Counseling Center, 456-8094.

4 to 7 p.m.—*Movie: The Grapes of Wrath* in Gaige 207. Sponsored by the History Department. 456-8802. Free.

8 p.m.—*Music:* RIC Chorus in Roberts Auditorium. General admission \$7. RIC students free.

29 Monday

Take A Professor to Lunch. Contact the Donovan Dining Center for more information.

HBS kids send lend a helping hand



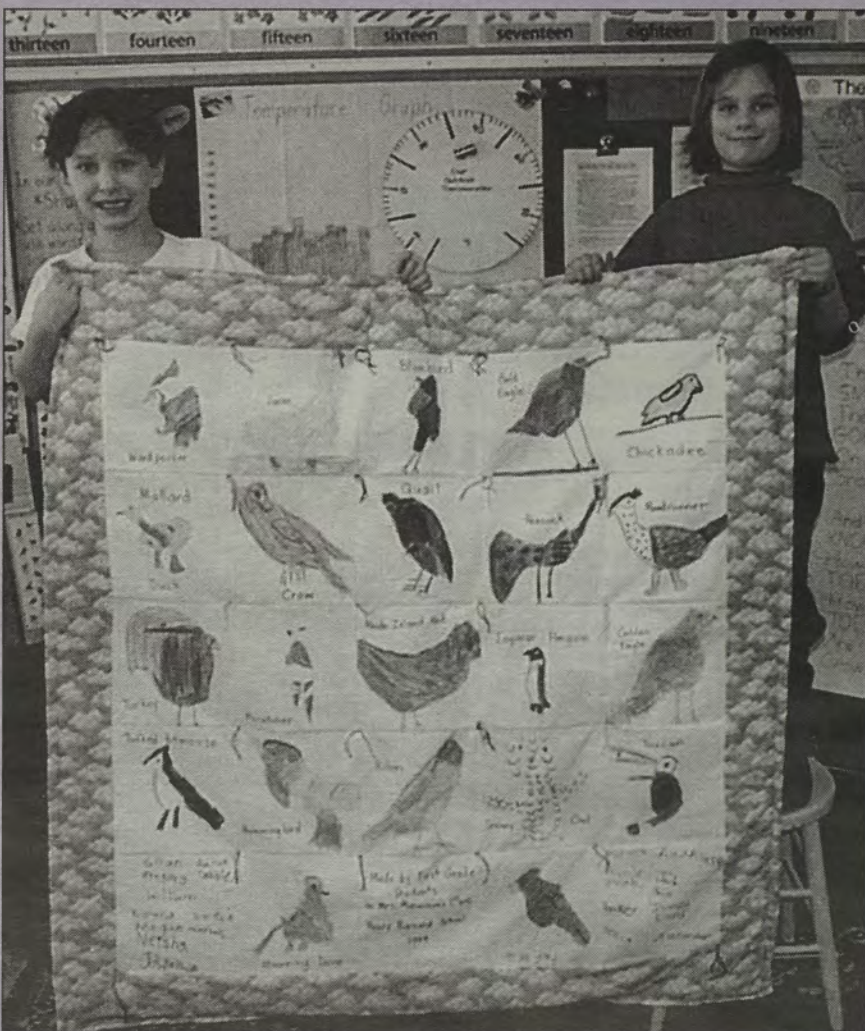
AIDS QUILTS: Students in Joan Bloom's and Pam Manninen's first grade classes in Henry Barnard School created quilts to be sent to AIDS Care Ocean State, a facility that cares for HIV-positive children and children with fetal alcohol syndrome. The quilts will hang in a nursery. (What's New Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Sports Events

| Women's Gymnastics | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| March 17-20 | NCGA Championships + | TBA |
| Baseball | | |
| March 15 | Salem State # (at Hoyt Field) | 10 a.m. |
| March 17 | Framingham State # (at Joe DiMaggio East) | 10 a.m. |
| March 17 | Fitchburg State # (at Joe DiMaggio East) | 3:30 p.m. |
| March 18 | Carroll # (at Dade City) | 10 a.m. |
| March 18 | at Warner Southern # | 4 p.m. |
| March 19 | Skidmore # (at Joe DiMaggio East) | 10: a.m. |
| March 23 | at Coast Guard | 3 p.m. |
| March 25 | at Framingham State | 3 p.m. |
| March 28 | SUFFOLK (2-9) | Noon |
| March 29 | TRINITY | 3: p.m. |
| March 30 | at Worcester State | 3 p.m. |
| Softball | | |
| March 15 | Smith # | 11 a.m. |
| March 15 | Nichols # | 1 p.m. |
| March 16 | Mac Murray # | 9 a.m. |
| March 16 | Wisconsin-Stevens Point # | 1 p.m. |
| March 17 | Roger Williams # | 9 a.m. |
| March 17 | Marian (WI) # | 1 p.m. |
| March 18 | Amherst # | 9 a.m. |
| March 18 | Salem State # | 11 a.m. |
| March 24 | at Bryant (2-7) | 3 p.m. |
| March 25 | CLARK UNIVERSITY | 4 p.m. |
| March 29 | at Coast Guard | 3 p.m. |
| Men's Tennis | | |
| Mar. 26 | UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND | 3 p.m. |
| Mar. 28 | WHEATON | 1 p.m. |
| Men's and Women's Track and Field | | |
| Mar. 27 | at Bridgewater State Invitational | 11 a.m. |

HOME GAMES/MEETS IN BOLD

+ Denotes hosted by Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN
Denotes played in Florida



Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. No student, employee, or applicant will be denied admission, employment, or access to programs and activities because of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap/disability status, sexual orientation/preference, or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College's administration of the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.